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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S.D.A.

Washington, D. C.

SS- 175

June 21, 1957

Crop Prospects Generally Favorable

Crop prospects appear favorable for a large total production. Favorable factors, as of June 1, include generally adequate moisture supplies, good development of most fall seeded crops, fair to good starts for some spring crops and excellent forage growth.

Wheat Forecast 971 Million Bushels

The total wheat crop, forecast at 971 million bushels, is about 14 percent below average but only 3 percent less than the 1956 crop.

Winter wheat continued to improve in the most important Central and Southern Plains producing States. Declines from a month ago were evident in several States, but these were offset by gains in western States. The crop was still little touched by combines on June 1 but looked like a 736 million bushel total, edging above last year's crop which was harvested from 4 million more acres. Indicated yield, at 23.6 bushels per acre for harvest, is highest of record. Last year's yield 20.6 bushels, average 18.6.

Spring wheat has made a fine start in important producing States. Most seedings have emerged to good stands and have grown well under favorable moisture conditions. Crop is now estimated at 235 million bushels--a tenth less than harvested from last year's much larger acreage. Durum varieties now promise production of about 30 million bushels of this amount or about a fourth less than last year.

Rye Condition Much Above Average

Rye condition on June 1 was reported at 87 percent of normal and compares with the average of 81. Condition is a decline of only one point from a month ago and compares with 78 percent a year ago.

Planting of Corn and Soybeans Now Moving Along After Lag

Unusual planting lag this spring for corn and soybeans--large acreages too wet to work and plant during May. Farmers in Illinois and Indiana had only about half of their corn planted by June 1; in Missouri only slightly more than half. Only about a fifth of the soybeans in these States had been planted, and plantings in most other States leading in production of these crops also were behind the early planting progress of other recent years. Iowa and Minnesota farmers fared better, had planted 95 and 85 percent of their corn, respectively, and almost two-thirds of their soybeans by June 1. Drying weather since that date has permitted much day and night field work and the planting of large acreages.

Hay Condition Best in 30 Years

Condition of all hay on June 1, at 88 percent of normal, is the most favorable for the date since

1927. The current report is 10 points above the low June 1, 1956 condition and 4 points above average. For the United States as a whole, prospective yield for alfalfa, clover and wild hay compare favorably with last year and the average. The best surface and subsoil moisture in several years in the range-livestock area is the basis for the relatively high condition and prospects for wild hay.

Better Pastures Than Usual

The condition of pastures on June 1 at 88 percent of normal was the highest for June 1 since 1952--compares with 72 percent a year earlier and the average of 84 percent. Pasture condition improved three percentage points during May, due to either sufficient or timely moisture.

More Oranges Than Last Year

Season's orange production (including tangerines) is expected to total 138 million boxes, up 1 percent from last season's crop and 17 percent above average. As of June 1, about 33 million boxes of oranges remained unharvested compared with 29 million same date last year. Of the oranges to be harvested, 18 million boxes are California Valencias.

Prices of Farm Products

Commodity	Average prices received by farmers		Effective parity prices
	Apr. 15 1956	May 15 1957	May 1957
Basic commodities:			
Cotton, Amer. upland (lb.)..... ct.	30.55	31.47	37.06
Wheat (bu.)..... dol.	2.05	1.98	2.51
Rice (100 lb.)..... dol.	4.80	4.82	5.77
Corn (bu.)..... dol.	1.21	1.23	1.82
Peanuts (lb.)..... ct.	11.2	11.2	13.7
Designated nonbasic commodities:			
Butterfat in cream (lb.)..... ct.	59.1	59.0	74.3
Milk, wholesale (100 lb.)..... dol.	3.99	¹ 3.86	4.82
Wool (lb.)..... ct.	² 50.9	² 55.2	65.4
Other nonbasic commodities:			
Barley (bu.)..... dol.	.985	.956	1.36
Cottonseed (ton)..... dol.	---	---	71.90
Flaxseed (bu.)..... dol.	2.80	2.79	4.56
Hay, baled (ton)..... dol.	21.10	20.10	24.90
Oats (bu.)..... dol.	.712	.703	.876
Potatoes (cwt.)..... dol.	1.24	1.36	2.46
Rye (bu.)..... dol.	1.13	1.05	1.68
Sorghum, grain (100 lb.)..... dol.	2.04	1.99	2.66
Soybeans (bu.)..... dol.	2.24	2.23	3.02
Sweetpotatoes (cwt.)..... dol.	5.08	5.54	5.24
Oranges, on tree (box)..... dol.	1.78	1.54	2.59
Apples, for fresh use (bu.)..... dol.	3.81	4.35	2.89
Beef cattle (100 lb.)..... dol.	16.90	17.50	22.40
Calves (100 lb.)..... dol.	18.30	18.60	24.60
Hogs (100 lb.)..... dol.	17.40	17.20	21.90
Lambs (100 lb.)..... dol.	20.70	20.60	24.90
Chickens, all (lb.)..... ct.	18.4	18.4	28.6
Eggs (dozen)..... ct.	30.8	29.0	48.0

¹ Preliminary.

² Does not include incentive payment to bring season average return to 62 cents per pound.

Fewer Grapefruit, More Lemons

Grapefruit crop is expected to total 44 million boxes--3 percent below last season and 9 percent below average. As of June 1, about 4 million boxes remained for harvest--about the same as a year earlier.

The California lemon crop is estimated at 14.5 million boxes, 9 percent above last season, and 10 percent above average. Approximately 7 million boxes of lemons remained unharvested as of June 1 compared with a little over 5 million boxes a year earlier.

Biggest Peach Crop in Ten Years

Peach crop is forecast at 71,398,000 bushels--2 percent above last year and 11 percent above average. Prospects are for the largest U. S. crop since 1947. The crop will be below both average and the 1956 crop in the North Atlantic and Central States, while the South Atlantic and Western States expect crops which will be above both average and last year.

More Apples Than Last Year

Heavy hail storms hit several apple producing areas in the State of Washington in early June after

Livestock and Livestock Products

Item	Unit	Jan.-Apr. 1956	Jan.-Apr. 1957
<u>Dairy Production</u>			
Milk	Bil. lb.	154.3	154.7
Evaporated whole milk.....	Mil. lb.	784	805
Dry nonfat milk solids (for human food).....	Mil. lb.	554	550
Butter, creamery.....	Mil. lb.	493	483
Cheese, American.....	Mil. lb.	309	316
Ice cream	Mil. gal.	188	188
<u>Poultry Production</u>			
Eggs	Billions	127.3	127.7
Poultry meat ²	Mil. lb.	1,134	1,268
Canned poultry	Mil. lb.	64.6	67.9
Liquid egg	Mil. lb.	185	194
Dried egg (egg solids)	Mil. lb.	7.9	11.6
Frozen egg.....	Mil. lb.	143.3	139.2
Chicks hatched-Total ³	Millions	1,176	1,095
Chicks hatched-Broiler ³	Millions	1,636	1,661
Poults hatched ³			
Heavy breeds	Millions	151.7	154.7
Light breeds	Millions	16.7	16.7
<u>Meat Production</u> ² (dressed weight)			
Beef	Mil. lb.	4,571	4,587
Veal	Mil. lb.	449	458
Pork	Mil. lb.	3,746	3,308
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lb.	261	245
Total red meat.....	Mil. lb.	9,027	8,598
<u>Slaughter</u> ²			
Cattle	1,000 head	8,405	8,539
Calves.....	1,000 head	3,914	3,984
Hogs	1,000 head	28,914	25,237
Sheep and lambs.....	1,000 head	5,422	5,066

¹ January-May.

² Commercial; excludes farm slaughter.

³ By commercial hatcheries.

growers had made their reports and the full extent of the damage has not been determined. Prospect for the country as a whole on June 1, however, pointed to a larger crop of apples than last year--better than last year in the Eastern States, slightly smaller crop than last year in the Central States and larger than last year's short crop in the Western States.

Other Fruit Crops

Pear crop, estimated at 33 million bushels, is 2 percent more than last year and 10 percent above average.

Condition of California wine grapes is rated above the last two years and above average. Table varieties and raisin varieties both are below last year and below average.

Sweet cherries in 11 States, forecast at 89,600 tons, will top last year's short crop by about 31 percent, although 7 percent below average.

Apricots (3 States), indicated at 211,800 tons,

Statistical Series of Interest to Agriculture

Item	1956			1957	
	May	Yr.	Mar.	Apr.	May
Nonfarm employment, (civilian) ¹	Mil. 58.1	Mil. 58.4	Mil. 58.4	Mil. 58.5	Mil. 58.5
Farm employment.....	8.7	7.9	6.4	7.4	8.2
Family	6.7	6.0	5.1	5.9	6.3
Hired	2.0	1.9	1.3	1.5	1.9
Index numbers (1947-49=100)					
Industrial production ²	141	143	145	144	143
Total personal income payments ³	160	161	167	168	---
Weekly factory earnings ⁴	157	161	164	162	160
Average earnings of factory workers, per worker ⁴	149	151	155	155	154
Wholesale prices, all commodities ⁴	114	114	117	117	117
Farm commodities	91	88	89	91	90
Food, processed	102	102	104	104	105
Consumer price index ⁴	115	116	119	119	---
Food.....	111	112	113	114	---
Index numbers (1910-14=100)					
Prices received by farmers	240	235	238	242	243
Crops.....	249	240	237	242	244
Food grains.....	226	224	235	233	225
Feed grains and hay.....	192	185	181	180	179
Cotton.....	270	268	252	258	266
Tobacco.....	454	453	459	459	457
Oil bearing crops	265	250	265	264	263
Fruit	227	219	237	237	228
Vegetables for fresh market.....	259	247	252	294	315
Livestock and products.....	232	230	238	242	241
Meat animals.....	250	238	263	275	278
Dairy products.....	247	259	260	253	248
Poultry and eggs	178	177	150	150	144
Prices paid by farmers:					
All commodities.....	265	264	272	273	273
Used in living	278	278	284	285	286
Used in production.....	250	249	258	260	259
Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates (parity index).....	286	286	295	296	296
Farm wage rates, seasonally adjusted....	538	536	554	562	562
Parity ratio (prices received to parity index)	84	82	81	82	82

¹ Bureau of the Census.

² Federal Reserve Board.

³ Department of Commerce.

⁴ Bureau of Labor Statistics.

will exceed last year's crop by 8 percent, but will be 6 percent below average.

Pig Crop Changes Small

Spring pig crop of 55.2 million head is about the same as year ago. Breeding intentions for fall crop point to a 2 percent increase over last fall. Number of hogs 6 months old and over June 1 was 3 percent below a year earlier.

Fewer Spring Vegetables In Prospect

Adverse weather in May has reduced the prospect for spring vegetables. Production will be down 7 percent from 1956, though 6 percent above average. Smaller crops than last year are indicated for cantaloups, tomatoes, sweet corn, onions, watermelons, honeydew melons, green peppers and carrots. Partially offsetting these declines are marked increases for lettuce, asparagus, cauliflower, cucumbers, and cabbage.

For summer vegetables, a 9 percent acreage increase is indicated.

Smaller Acreage for Processing

This year's planted acreage of vegetables for commercial processing is expected to be 3 percent below last year and 4 percent below average.

More Potatoes Than Last Year

Late spring potato crop is estimated at 29 million hundredweight, topping a year ago by 19 percent and 8 percent above average. Early summer crop, at 10 million cwt, is about the same as last year, but 4 percent less than average.

Sugar Crops, 1956 (Revised)

A total of 13,010,000 tons of sugar beets was harvested from 785,000 acres in 1956 for a record yield of 16.6 tons per acre. The 6 percent increase in production over the 1955 crop was mainly due to the additional 44,600 acres harvested in 1956. Sugarcane harvested for sugar in 1956 amounted to 6,014,000 tons. This compares with 6,821,000 tons in 1955.

Production of sugar from the combined crops of sugar beets and sugarcane in 1956 is estimated at 2,529,000 tons, raw value, topping the 1955 total of 2,313,000 tons by 9 percent. The 1956 production comprised 1,968,000 tons from beets and 561,000 tons from cane.

Milk and Egg Production Up a Little

The 13.1 billion pounds of milk produced in May topped a year earlier by 2 percent and was 6 percent above the 10-year average for the month. On a per capita basis, production was about the same as in May last year.

Production during the first 5 months of this year, totaling 54.7 billion pounds, was a little above the 54.3 billion produced a year earlier.

Hens laid 5.7 billion eggs in May, up from a year earlier by 2 percent. Egg production first 5 months also was up 2 percent from a year earlier.

Nation's laying flock averaged 295 million layers in May compared with 294 million last year and the average of 314 million.

More Broiler Chicks, Fewer Egg-Type

Number of broiler-type chicks hatched January through May was up from a year earlier by 4 percent. Egg-type chicks for the 5-month period were down 20 percent from the same period last year, but the number of eggs in incubators on June 1 for producing flock replacement chicks was 7 percent more than on June 1, 1956.

CURRENT ESTIMATES

Cash Receipts From Farm Marketings, by States, April 1957¹

State	Livestock and products	Crops	Total
	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars
Maine.....	8,399	9,228	17,627
New Hampshire.....	4,163	1,004	5,167
Vermont.....	7,717	2,346	10,063
Massachusetts.....	9,148	4,709	13,857
Rhode Island.....	1,143	483	1,626
Connecticut.....	8,460	6,802	15,262
New York.....	47,915	15,024	62,939
New Jersey.....	16,108	6,621	22,729
Pennsylvania.....	45,959	14,673	60,632
North Atlantic.....	149,012	60,890	209,902
Ohio.....	52,611	20,806	73,417
Indiana.....	52,956	20,782	73,738
Illinois.....	94,449	52,559	147,008
Michigan.....	34,765	12,316	47,081
Wisconsin.....	81,351	6,490	87,841
East North Central.....	316,132	112,953	429,085
Minnesota.....	75,884	19,890	95,774
Iowa.....	136,007	18,258	154,265
Missouri.....	56,990	9,859	66,849
North Dakota.....	11,110	17,682	28,792
South Dakota.....	27,482	4,660	32,142
Nebraska.....	52,123	10,718	62,841
Kansas.....	43,572	8,322	51,894
West North Central.....	403,168	89,389	492,557
Delaware.....	6,878	1,168	8,046
Maryland.....	14,520	3,145	17,665
Virginia.....	18,118	5,897	24,015
West Virginia.....	6,121	1,176	7,297
North Carolina.....	17,711	12,779	30,490
South Carolina.....	6,833	7,127	13,960
Georgia.....	28,410	8,853	37,263
Florida.....	12,511	66,909	79,420
South Atlantic.....	111,102	107,054	218,156
Kentucky.....	20,620	3,269	23,889
Tennessee.....	18,191	4,437	22,628
Alabama.....	18,037	8,687	26,724
Mississippi.....	13,623	10,486	24,109
Arkansas.....	13,467	12,785	26,252
Louisiana.....	9,715	4,831	14,546
Oklahoma.....	22,863	2,816	25,679
Texas.....	79,784	17,572	97,356
South Central.....	196,300	64,883	261,183
Montana.....	8,775	4,086	12,861
Idaho.....	12,876	6,549	19,425
Wyoming.....	4,835	1,032	5,867
Colorado.....	24,428	4,676	29,104
New Mexico.....	9,613	2,218	11,831
Arizona.....	10,031	11,207	21,238
Utah.....	8,431	1,125	9,556
Nevada.....	1,487	260	1,747
Washington.....	16,173	18,054	34,227
Oregon.....	12,485	6,878	19,363
California.....	86,716	66,512	153,228
Western.....	195,850	122,597	318,447
United States.....	1,371,564	557,766	1,929,330

¹All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month. For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

Cash Receipts from Farming and Index of Volume of Farm Marketings, United States ¹

	April 1957	May 1957 ²
CASH RECEIPTS:		
Total marketings and CCC loans ³	<i>Mil. dol.</i> 1,929	<i>Mil. dol.</i> 2,000
Livestock and products	1,371	1,400
Meat animals.....	711	
Dairy products.....	393	
Poultry and eggs	231	
Other.....	36	
Crops	558	600
Food grains.....	44	
Feed crops.....	131	
Cotton (lint and seed)	31	
Oil-bearing crops.....	47	
Tobacco.....	7	
Vegetables	113	
Fruits and tree nuts.....	61	
Other.....	124	
Government payments	22	
Grand total	1,951	
	1947-49 = 100	1947-49 = 100
VOLUME OF FARM MARKETINGS:		
All commodities.....	90	95
Livestock and products.....	123	128
Crops	46	50

¹ For comparison with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

² Preliminary.

³ Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month.

Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Marketing Margin and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-food Products

Year and month	Retail cost ¹	Farm value ²	Marketing margin	Farmer's share
1956 average.....	\$ 976	\$ 390	\$ 586	40%
1956-Apr.....	956	382	574	40
1957-Mar.....	987	387	600	39
1957-Apr.....	995	393	602	39

¹ Retail cost of average quantities of farm foods purchased per urban wage-earner and clerical-worker family in 1952, calculated from retail prices collected by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

² Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing. For comparisons with earlier months and years see The Marketing and Transportation Situation.

Land Values Higher

Farm real estate values averaged 7 percent higher on March 1 than a year earlier. The rise for the 4-month period ending March 1 was 3 percent (for further details see "Current Development in the Farm Real Estate Market," released June 3, ARS, USDA).

Seasonal Increase in Farm Workers

Farm employment rose seasonally about 11 percent from late April to late May. The total of 8.2 million persons at work on farms in late May was nearly 800 thousand more than the number at work a month earlier but was down from a year earlier by about a half million. About two thirds of the decrease from a year earlier was in family workers and one-third in hired workers.

